



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Tuesday - November 5, 2002

- ***In the West***, a few light showers are overspreading the ***Pacific Northwest***. Across the ***interior Northwest***, however, cool weather and unfavorably dry soils continue to limit winter wheat emergence and establishment. Elsewhere in the ***West***, mild, dry weather favors autumn fieldwork, although nearly the entire region is suffering from the effects of long-term drought, including poor range conditions and reduced irrigation reserves.
- ***On the Plains***, a gradual warming trend is melting a patchy snow cover across ***northern areas*** and promoting some drying of wet fields across ***southern areas***. Slightly warmer conditions also favor some renewed winter wheat development, following a period of unusually cold weather.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, widespread precipitation (rain and wet snow) is slowing or halting corn and final soybean harvesting, but boosting soil moisture reserves for winter wheat establishment.
- ***In the South***, rain and wet fields across the ***lower Mississippi Valley*** are triggering additional soybean and cotton harvest disruptions, and causing further deterioration in the quality of the latter crop. Meanwhile, drier air is beginning to overspread areas ***west of the Delta***, although lowland flooding persists in parts of ***southern Louisiana*** and ***southern and eastern Texas***.

Outlook: A storm developing in the ***western Gulf*** will track northeast into the ***southern Appalachians*** before redeveloping off the ***mid-Atlantic Coast*** as an intensifying coastal storm. Heavy to excessive rainfall will end today across the ***lower Mississippi Valley*** while more beneficial rainfall will spread into the ***Southeast and Mid-Atlantic***. As the coastal storm strengthens, heavy snow could fall across the higher elevations of ***northern New England***. Elsewhere, stormy weather will impact the ***West Coast*** during the latter half of the week. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 10-14 calls for above-normal precipitation across the ***Northwest, northern Plains, and the eastern one-third of the country***, while below-normal precipitation is forecast for the ***central and southern Plains***. Warmer-than-normal weather is expected along the ***East Coast*** and in the ***Northwest***, but below-normal temperatures are forecast in the ***Southwestern and South-Central U.S.***

Contact: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)